# VIETNAM

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6th Your

FIRST HUNDRED DAYS

NIXON's

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# OUR FOREFATHERS

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MYTH, legend, tradition, even quasi-modern invest to employ one of these terms when they spoke about the Hung kings, thought to be the founders and organisers of amcient Vietnamese nation. of ancient Vietnamese nation-ality. They had no flair, but, let us concede it, they had an excuse: already our old historiographers had doubt-ed the existence of such monarchs, lost in the fog of very remote times.

True, it sometimes happens True, it sometimes happens that peoples, and not only scribes, lose even the memory of their Consoso. In our country, the small group of temples on Mount Nghia Cuong dedicated to the Hungs in rather modest; besides, it is quite vecent in its present aspect, and yet, into times immemorial, on the toth days at the vel moon of each day of the 3rd moon of each year (usually late April), crowds of pilgrims come to pay tribute to the ancestors pay tribune of the nation.

Did those ancestors ever exist? One of the main achie-vements of young Victnamese

archaeology has been to de-monstrate in a definite way that, on that score, it was that, on that score, it was not the people but the scho-lars who were mistaken. The discovery in the last decade discovery in the last decade of a series of prhistoric knolls — nearly a hundred so far — at the very heart of the "kingdom" of Van Lang according to tradition has lifted the veil of mystery and settled the difference opposing popular faith to the weapons of scholarly criticism.

Again a victory of the regime? Just so. Chance, which has a role to play in scientific research, has been which has a sole to play in scientific research, has been for nothing in this affair. When the eminent French orientalist Henri Maspero visio the sphere hogo fables, or fiction, he knew quite well – and said so—that many hoes of polished to the sphere with there in provinces of the Red River delta. From this he had drawn the conclusion that Vietnances in those remote times "knew how the house remote times "knew how the house remote times "knew how the should be the said of the said

idea did not occur to him, or to any other Western or rotalists after him, that it could have been turned so any lack of science or imagi-nation on his part ? I don't think so. But he didn't believe the culture of a colonial expectally in which persone expectally the state of Mether was the soliest of Mether was the soliest of

times, of rising very high.

Neither was the spirit of invention or hnowledge lacking among the European archaroorigin let the Thanh Hoa bronce artifacts and the great Dong Son civilization—especially the Seede Olov Janux, who set the Seede Olov Janux, who set the cultural services in the coupied cone of South Vietnam. But they were inspired by the same reaction.

by the same racism.

As for us, pick and trowel in hand, we have gone in quest of our forefathers. We were not used to let ourselves be impressed by big names or by pure reasoning, and we shared our people's attachment ancestral traditions and their nations.

(Continued page 5)

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** IN WARTIME NORTH VIET NAM

### Military Operations

#### South Viet Nam

- PLAF blast a huge ammo depot at Da Nang airfield and put 300 GI's of Tropic Lightning Division out of action at Ben Trai northwest of Saigon.

- Heavy enemy losses South of DMZ: 950 casualties, 67 military vehicles destroyed in 9 days.

#### North Viet Nam

Between April 27 and May 3, 4 unmanned spy planes were downed (three over Hanoi and one over Haiphong), bringing the total number of aircraft lost by the U.S. in North Viet Nam to 3,284



PLAF fighters marching up hill and down dale

Nam armed forces and people Nam armed forces and people, all these have cast a dark shadow over Nixon's first hundred days, the hasty trips to and from Washington accomplished by Laird Wheeler, Bunker, the rash interminable meetings the National Security Council and the speeches and uself filled either with digressions or embarrassmen supplied unmistakable indions of the disorderly mood ailing in Washington prevailing in Washington since Nixon took over the reins of the State. Mention should also be made of the increasingly critical inflation. recent action taken by the Peruvian governmen against the American oi

Such facts only added to the weakening of U.S. position as a major power in the even the quiet of its back Confronted with such puzzling situation, Nixon could not keep silent for long as he had previously plan ned, and had to give some in timations of his policy which ere only indicative of its this policy is apparently going counter to the interests of the Americans; at home, in the defence budget and the strengthening of the oppressive \machinery; in oppressive machinery; in foreign affairs, it means the continuation of U.S. role as

ompany and its decision to

set up trade and diplomatic relations with a number of

socialist countries, the with

drawal by neighbouring Ca-nada of her military commit-

ment in the NATO and her

planned recognition of the People's Republic of China.

securing a "position of strength" in the quagmire NOTHING new can be found in Niver found in Nixon s policy in relation with John-This is particularly

an international gendarme

military alliances; as far as Viet Nam is concerned, it

aims at pursuing the losing

war of aggression by means of an alleged "Vietnamiza-tion" of the conflict, and at

true with Viet Nam. What may be new is only the fact that the situation has considerably worsened where the fact that the situation of the puppet troops and for "extra" flights of B52's. On April 7, 1060, in the U.S. News

Firstly, the sad Viet Nam legacy inherited from Johnson been burdened with new setbacks suffered by Abram's army at the hand of an un resourceful people offensive seemingly whose offensive seemingly have no time limit, as some Western agency put it. The "clear-and-hold" strategy, which was resorted to by the U.S. in its last-ditch efforts, is facing complete

Secondly, Johnson has used up all tricks of U.S. imperi alism, including "special warfare" and "limited warin South Viet Nam and the strategy of air war escalation against the North. He has also tested all sorts of tactics and weapons which have all proved utterly inefficient against the Viet-namese people's undaunted-

Thirdly, a mood of defeatism is now spreading among U.S. ruling circles following Johnson's strategic back-down moves which were the limitation of bombing, then the unconditional cessation of all air, naval and artiller bombardment against North Viet Nam and the agreement to hold a quadripartite confer ence in Paris with NFL participation.

Fourthly, the American people who were fed up with Johnson's promises will not longive any Nixon's pledges of pledges those pledges are made when campaigning for U.S. president. Neither will they allow Nixon to lead the U.S. to new disasters.

True, Nixon is a prisoner of the above described situa tion. The present pertinacity of the U.S. rulers is but that of a battered adversary in a weakened position, at a loss for a suitable way to escape total defeat

compared with the THOSE are but some intial setbacks befalling Nixon in the first hundred days of his administration. If continues obstinate in his

> failures in store for him. Anxiety in already gripping the President and his closest aides. It is not fortuitous that Laird spoke with concern about the PLAF "boundless" capacity to mount offensives and that other U.S. officials are fearful of the growing difficulties and GI losses inflicted on the U.S. by the sweeping onsets of the Liberation forces in South Viet Nam.

doubt further and bitterer

The American press has forecast that in the coming days Nixon will be assailed by a new wave of opposition in Congress when the new budget will be presented for approval, and nobody is not aware that the Democratic Party commands there a comfortable majority and is resolved to control very strictly all military expen ditures proposed by the Pentagon and even all poli-cies put forward by the President. Senator Fulbright recently hinted at a general re-appraisal of U.S. foreign policy and warned that the hottest debate since World War II would probably take place when the Congress re-examine the dangerous commitments of the U.S. all

As far as they are concened, the American popular masses who showed no patience with Nixon during his first hundred days of the Pre-sidency, will undoubtedly press even more vigorously for an end to the criminal war in Viet Nam. A new Hot summer" is due to set in throughout the United

over the world.

## PARIS CONFERENCE ON VIET NAM HOLDS 15th PLENARY SESSION

WHAT was done by Nixon about Viet Nam in his first hundred days as President of the States 2 This was dealt by Mr. Tran Buu Kiem and Mr. Xuan Thuy, respec-tively heads of the NFL and DRVN delegations, at the 15th plenary session of the Paris Conference (April 30, 1969). They proved with irrefutable facts that Nixon had been pursuing the war of aggression in Viet Nam, pushing it to an unprece-dented level of atrocity, and had caused the Paris Conference to stagnate, while public opinion was deceived public opinion was deceived by statements on so-called progress of the conference and "private talks" outside official meetings.

The Front's delegate exposed Nixon's "partial withdrawal of U.S. troop" trick. What the U.S. president had in mind, he said, was to write off some U.S. units, either of an auxiliary nature or already heavily depleted, give puppet troops the wea-pons of those units and provide the puppet army with U.S. military personnel label-led as "advisers". This was concrete method within the framework of the "Viet-namization" of the war advocated by Nixon to play off Vietnamese against Viet-namese and achieve U.S. neo-colonialist policy in South Viet Nam. "It takes more than the withdrawal of few thousands or tens of thousands of American soldiers", said the NFL envoy, to show the good will of the United States. It must rather agree to withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops, without posing any condition whatsoever. In insisting on the mutual withdrawal troops, the U.S. is only seeking a pretext to prolong the

presence of its troops in South

Mr. Tran Buu Kiem highlighted the tumultuous drive urban masses in South Viet Nam for the replace-ment of the Thieu-Ky-Huong puppet triumvirate by a peace cabinet ready to hold serious talks with the NFL. He stressed the increasing weak ening and isolation of the puppet administration and the inner dissensions which had been splitting it asun-

In his turn Mr. Xuan Thuy laid emphasis on the numer-ous acts of war committed by the U.S. against North Viet Nam: reconnoitering flights, air bombings (including B52 bombings) and artillery bardments from the 7th Fleet or from South of the Ben Hai River, indiscriminate pouring of thousands of tons of bombs and shells on populated areas from Vinh Linh to Nghe An, and more and more deeply inside the DRVN terri-

In Paris, the DRVN chief negotiator went on, not only did the U.S. representatives refuse to withdraw totally satellite troops from South Viet Nam and stick to their absurd proposals (as they actually did at this 15th plenary session) but they also urged the discussion of the Laotian and Cambodian problems, which was tanamount to violation of the tries and a manœuvre to complicate the conference works and prolong its deadlook.

On the occassion of the international Labour Day, Mr. Xuan Thuy conveyed his warm greetings to U.S. and world workers who were stepping up their actions against the U.S. war of aggres-sion in Viet Nam and for an end to it by the Nixon admin-

### Nixon's First 100 Days' Criminal cenaries sprayed U.S.-made CS toxic chemicals over an area of Nai Dat, Ba Ria War Escalation in South Viet Nam

The Commission for Investigation of the U.S. Imperialists' War Crimes in Viet Nam has made public a statement some excerpts of

N April 30, 1969, the Nixon administration completed its 100 days in office. The tolerent period the American people reserved to a newly elected president has become roo days of criminal escalation in Viet

"In South Viet Nam, in the past 100 days, the Nixon administration allocated another 98 million dollars to-wards the equipping of the Saigon puppet government with 300 up-to-date helicop-ters of UH1 type for the airlifting of puppet troops to massacre the Vietnamese peo-ple. Furthermore, it allotted a special credit of 258 million dollars for the modernization

and World Report press room, U.S Defence Secretary Mel-vin Laird declared, "It involves immediately an addi-tional 156 million dollars so far as equipment is concerned for the South Vietnames forces". The Nixon admi-nistration introduced into South Viet Nam another 3,000 U.S. expeditionary 3,000 troops, and 1,500 Thai mer-cenaries to launch big ter-rorist raids with U.S battalions operating in cooperation with puppet divisions to round up, terrorize, concen-trate and massacre the Vietnamese people within the framework of their accelerated pacification plan. It als strengthened its forces with weapons and war means, put-ting into use the new F4E with greater speed,

longer range and greater bomb load than the F.4D, supplied to the puppet with squadrons of bombers of A.37 type. It sent B.52 strategic bombers on round the clock carpet bombing sorties where tons after tons of bombs have been rained over hamlets and villages, ricefields and even on populated areas situated in the town and city suburbs, destroying and levelling wide areas. The entire world indignantly dethe two n South Vietnamese patriots at Ba Lang An and Con H'Rinh in the Nixon administration's first 100 days.

istration, the use of toxic chemicals has been greatly intensified: Australian mer-

province. ("The Saigon pup-pet government banned all anti-war songs and records, closed down over to newspo repressed students and Reverend Thich Thien Minh. arrested anyone talking about peace, democracy, neutrality, palition..., pressganged hosts of doctors, chemists, veterinaries, and medical, pharmaceutical and dental stu-dents. At the U.S. Senate Armed Forces Committee, U.S. Defence Secretary Melvin Laird breathed out that for the U.S., the basic problem remains that of achiev ing permanent South Vietnese governmental control (i.e. South Viet Nam puppet administration) over

"With such provocative, aggressive and war intensi-fication acts, the Nixon administration has revealed the hypocrisy of its will

VIET NAM COURIER

THE NORTH-GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

AGRICULTURE

more and more raw mate

Major hydraulic works and

factories producing chemical fertilizers were fiercely at-

acked by the enemy. Never

hydraulic network in every

part of the country, pushed up the traditional practice of

manure on the spot, and the

manure on the spot, and the application of new farming methods such as rational crop rotation, seed selection, careful tending and combat

against inséct pests so as to

promote intensive cultivation

for high crop yields. As a result, food output in the past 4 years has been on the

preparing green and

#### DROCEEDING from basic concept that North Viet Nam is the great rear base and the South the great frontline of the whole country, when the U.S. imperialists escalated the war into the North, the Nam Workers' Party laid down the relevant political namese people, namely to simultaneously produce and fight, actively defend the North, provide all-out support for the Southern people and resolutely resist U.S. aggres-sion until victory while sion until victory while stepping up the building of socialism in a way suitable to

the new situation. Building and developing North Viet Nam's economy boils down to carrying on the laying of the material and technical foundations socialism, continuing continuing steadily consolidating social-ist production relations in a way called for by war-time conditions, stabilizing the people's living standard concurrently ensuring ncreased production, fighting redness while closely coor dinating the satisfaction of the needs of the anti-U.S. fight with preparations for future step-up of socialist

Reality has proved that this line is sound and has produced fruitful results. In the past 4 years, we part of the capital invested in the building of the material and technical founda ions of various branches of economy for the shaping of local economy. This stems from the realisation of the strategic role of the latter in a people's war and in socialist industrialisation of n agriculturally backward country progressing straight to socialism without passing through the stage of capitalist development. Each area (province and city) must be into a production, through the stage of turned into a production, fighting, operational and logis-tical strategic unit.

vegetables, subsidiary and industrial crops and animal breeding have increased annually: 1068 saw a 4.2 pet cent rise in pig breeding over 1967 and was the peak year

THE task of agriculture is to concentrate efforts on solving the food problem, meeting the needs of the army and the people and at the same time seeing to its all-sided development so as to supply ware a mater as materials. Relations of production in agricultural co-ops have been constantly strengthened. In 1968, 94.3 per cent of the rials for industry and farm products for export. peasant households joined the co-ops, with more than 02 per cent of them in high-level ones. The size and the Since Viet Nam's economy is largely agricultural with a rather wide field of action, it is impossible for the enemy to destroy its whole structure. material and technical bases of the co-ops have been constantly enlarged. Agricultural co-operation has transformed our country's small, scattered and backward production into a rather large, plannified and gradual-ly modernized production. theless we organised the masses to develop a small

In short, our agriculture keeps developing steadily in war, and has succeeded in meeting the war needs, maintaining the people's living standard and providing a sound initial basis for the development of industry.

FOR the development of industry in war time, we industry in war time, we past 4 years has been on the increase. Progress in high farming has been the striking feature of agricultural deve-lopment in our country during the past 4 years of defence of existing establish-ments, their re-organisation and readjustment to wartime. and the gearing up of their war. The area having achieved production capacity, regarded them as the 5 tons of paddy rice per hectare per year (1.3 ton/ha under French domination) source of supplies for produc-tion and the fighting; on makes up more than half of the acreage under rice in the Bac Bo (former Tonkin) delta. the other hand, we have decided to concentrate efforts on stepping up the building of local industry with a host of small and scattered establishments so Attention has been paid to the all-sided agricultural production, apart from rice culture. The growing of as to enable each province, in any circumstances, to satisfy to the maximum local needs with its own resources first of all needs in means of production for agriculture, and communications and trans port, and in consumer goods at the same time adequate attention has been paid to the continued building of central-ly-run industry with suitable measures and on an appro-priate scale and where condipriate scale and where condi-tions permit a number of enterprises will receive additional equipment to expand their production.

Centrally-run industrial insattack But thanks to the strick grounded in North Viet Nam, implementation of the policy of evacuating, dispersing and of different types including protecting the factories and building shadow projects, many branches such as electricity, coal, engineering, cotton fabrics, paper and sugar have been able to maintain production at a substantial level, successfuland production and a part

of the needs of the population. Besides centrally-run industry, the past years have also witnessed a radically significant turning point in the building and development Vinh Phu province attended orative ceremony of local industry. Step by

step, we have been setting up a comprehensive network of local industry in each province capable of reinfor-

Economic Development

in Wartime North Viet Nam

spot logistics. distribution of labour force in each area. In the past in the building of local industry has increased by a times compared with the 4 pre years (1961-1964). More than r ooo state-run local indusrial establishments and handicraft co-operatives hav been put into commission. In 1968, gross output value grew by 30 per cent compared with 1964

> Remarkable has been the progress in engineering in-The engineering network keeps extending at all levels.

In 1967 gross output value of the local engineering industry rose by 58.6 per cent compared with 1904. In 1908, it went up by 14.5 per cent over the previous year. This branch of industry has concentrated on producing small machines, power generators water pumps, improved hand carts, farm machine-units and whole sets of equipment for a number of small-size local industrial installations. The equipment of agricultural co-ops with mechanical devices has brought about a change for the better in the distribution of labour and helped them rapidly raise our productivity and crop with the result that a part of man-power used in agriculture has been shifted industry, communications and transport, and fighting

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT

OVER the past years, transport have been regarded as the central emergency task of the entire Party and people. In spite of intensive enemy attacks, our communications and transport network has expanded rapidly and experienced an unprecedented growth.

With their wisdom, creativeness and courage, our people and armed forces have overcome the shortcom-ings inherent in a country with many rivers and canals and poorly developed comto build a dense communica tion network with every means, modern and rudiment ary, they have at their disposal. As a result, our goods have been flowing to the frontline and to every corner of the country for the benefit of production and the people's life. In the road

per cent fulfilled in 1005. The rate was 104 per cent in 1000, 107 per cent in 1007 and 125.2 per cent in 1008

The people have largely contributed to the achievements of the communication and transport service. Maintenance teams set up by the peo-ple are available. Wherever there is a road, ready at all times to keep it open : they fill up bomb craters, repair fill up bomb craters, repair bridges and roads, load unload and transport goods, and even fight off enemy raids on

#### PEOPLE'S LIVING STANDARD

tribution, we have decided to concentrate to the highest degree man - power and financial and material resources on fighting and defeating the US aggressor defeating the 18 aggressor while paying due attention to the people's living conditions, meeting their essential needs in food, clothing, beattle attentions. health and education, and im proving their well-being for the sake of increased production and long-term fighting.

Prompted by their ardent patriotism and their deep ha-tred for the US imperialists, every year our people sell rice, meat and other products to the State in excess of the planned quotas. Goods are distributed to them on a fair, rational and democratic basis. The network of retail sale by state trade com-panies and marketing and supplying cooperatives has doubled compared with the pre-war period.

The socialist market plays the leading role on the general market. As a whole prices are stabilised.

Thanks to all these efforts, the people's standard of li-ving remains relatively stable, and in some localities it has even improved in some respects.

Finance and currency n the main sound. On the basis of the turn-over of increased production, the people's contributions and the assistance of the brotherly countries, there is always a rapid increase in the revenue

HANKS to its sound line and policies and with creative measures, North Viet Nam's economy has not been hurt by the U.S. war of destruction as the enemy developing. The superiority of socialist economy and of the sound political and social regime has been further brought out in bold relief in the war. This constitutes an important factor which has contributed to our victors over the U.S. war of destruc-tion and will give a push to North Viet Nam advance towards socialism.

 A grand meeting held in Hanoi to celebrate May Day, in achieving exploits and fighting and defeating U.S. was attended by President Ho Chi Minh and other State and Party leaders, and by aggression ' Since Aug. 5, 1964, the armed forces and people of this zone have shot down 1,466 U.S. aircraft, or nearly

News in Brief

representatives of workers, armymen, cooperative far-mers, intellectuals and various segments of Hanoi people, as well as labour heroes and

o On April 27, 1969, people in various provinces and ci-Nam went to the polls to elect people's councils at district, village and corresponding levels.

In Hanoi, President Ho Chi Minh and other Party and State leaders joined the city's voters.

Recently the Viet Nam Workers' Party 4th Military Zone Committee held a con-gress with the following key

 On the occasion of the anniversary of kings Hung, the founders of the Vietnamese nation (10th day, 3rd Lunar month or April 26, 1969), tens of thousands of people from various parts of country, the local peo ple and representatives of many public offices and branches of service of the of service of the

B.52 strategic bombers and

F.IIIA swing-wing planes.

half the total U.S.

" Let's emulate one another

# Complete Failure of U.S. Neo-Colonialism in South Viet Nam

By Prof. L. V. H. (South Viet Nam)

(continued from last issue)

III - CULTIVATION AND UTILIZATION OF REAC-TIONARY AND DEPRIVED PSYWAR LITERATURE AND ARTS

Psywar literature and arts in the pay of the U.S.

gang of hack writers and artists have been fostered and gathered in the psychological warfare, information, propaganda and "open arms" apparatus of the U.S.-puppets. Their task is to garble the August Revolution, the past war of resistance against French colonialism and the present great nation-wide war of resistance against U.S. ag-gression, for national salvation. Day and night they reactionary propaganda and doctored news bulletins over radio and television hookup Radio Saigon, Radio Quan Doi (Army), Tu Do (Freedom), Radio Guom Thieng Ai Quoe (The Patriotic Sacred Sword) and the Voice of America. They set prizes for and pub lish lavishly anti-communist literature by such arch-reac-tionaries as Ky Van Nguyen, Vo Phien, Chu Tu, Doan Ouoc Sy, Nguyen Manh

Along with anti-commu nist literature combined with bloody "Denounce and Make Away with Comcampaigns. puppet administration also puppet administration also makes intensive use of another facet of psywar literature, i.e. anti-national and traitorous literature. This literature lands the bosses to the skies, s what it calls the disinterestedness, generosity and noble humanism the United States which has "brought weapons and money to help the Viet-namese defend their freedom and sovereignty..." In this category one can find many poems and articles singing
"Viet Nam—America friendship" and "Viet Nam ship" and "Viet Nam -America idylls", weeping over the death of American aggressors on the battlefields extolling the American "advisors" or experts in the "charity" and medical teams, or in the "peace" detachments. They shamelessly call the U.S. the "benefactor" of the Vietnamese people and spare no words to deify the might and wealth of the United States.

Since mid-1065 when U.S. its wicked nature as an agugly features as traitors, psy-war literature has run short of decent signboards to lavish its praises on, and has thus been forced to concentrate on justifying the U.S. aggression and the puppets' treason.

Thus, the hack writers of all denominations exert themselves to prove that American troops have come to South Viet Nam to "save the South Vietnamese people from Communist aggression and domi-nation", that "American nation", that "American bombs and shells only kill the Vietcong and only devastate Vietcong areas". More perfidious still, the traitorous writers try to foment dissen-sion between the North and the South, distort the national liberation revolution and the common efforts of the Vietnamese people in the two zones to resist U.S. aggression and wipe out the traitors.

On the other hand, psywar literature also endeavours to allay the traitors' fears resulting from the ever heavier and more frequent military political setbacks by puppet administration and army, whipping up an atmos-phere of artifical optimism the puppet through descriptions of imay U.S.-puppet "victo-and PLAF imaginary "defeats". As for the puppet administration, it was dolled up through loudly advertized fraudulent elections to give the impression that the pup-pets, too, have at heart na-tional sovereignty, democracy law and constitution.

A series of voluminous and

dirt cheap psywar books have been published which eulogize and poeticize the life of the mercenary and depict a mythical image of the "fighter of the Republic". Most typical in this category are novels by Van Ouang To entice young men with-out an experience of the grisly reality of the mer-cenary life, Van Quang brazenly extolls the crazy behaviour and sanguinary acts of commandos and paratroopers whom he angels" knights in fatigue dress "who fight with boundless zeal, kill coldbloodly and are ready to dash forward to become targets of enemy bullets, considering it to be a petty love affair or just a little game". (in The Soldier's Sweetheart). After bombastic and completely bombastic and completely imaginary battle accounts with gory scenes of killings, comes the revelling in the towns in the faked atmos-phere of peace, to the accompaniment of American music, with American liquor and among show girls and prostitutes or members of the so-called "Association of Soldiers' Lovers", while Radio Saigon blares out the sickening song "I, girl of the rear, you, man of the front". In a word, money, women and wine, that is

the main bait for the mer

cenaries dubbed "fighters and officers of the Repu-

Another aspect of the scheme to use arts and literature in psychological warfare is the so-called " lites ature of compassion" which is characterized by romantic and snivelling songs and poems purported to inspire the masses with the dread of war, the loathing of hardships of fighting and create the psychology of passive pacifism and peace at all costs. On the other hand, it also spreads perfidious and vague allega tions to conceal the aggressive and traitorous nature of the U.S. and puppets, confuse right and wrong and equate the aggressors with the victim of aggression. The hack writers headed by Pham Duy weep over war curse war, encourage anti war literature and calls for peace in general (which is in fact peace in slavery advocated by the Yankee aggressors). This is the sub-stance of the "heart songs" of

'spearside grandparents'

U.S. psywar

ture and art directly missioned and dissemina-

ted by U.S.-puppet psywar

literature and arts subsidized

propagate widely through the press, poems, fictions, dances, music and the theatre

no less dangerous poisons

for the mind. Decadent liter

ature and arts is, in effect,

a means to take man away

from the social realities into

the realm of oblivion and

and encouraged by them

Letters to Steinbeck.

affairs or cheap mawkish themes that cry over imagipary misfortunes. Pham Duy which the psywar More dangerous, the decabosses took to the southern bank of the Ben Hai river dent literature is not only trying to divorce man from reality and land him into between North and South Viet Nam and beamed onto the northern bank over huge the realm of illusion of negative romantism. It even goes to greater lengths in poisoning the sentiments and thoughts loudspeakers. This is also the content of the books and newspapers published by Ho Huu Tuong who tries to de-monstrate that the "era of of the readers. In the name of realism and by means of existentialist methods, it is monstrate that the "era of peace" has set in to replace "the era of struggle", that "the tendency to resist is a bestial instinct." The "comleaving no stone unturned to propagate an immoral outlook on life, which completely clashes with the traditional moral values of the substitute for fighting finds nation, encourages sex and a typical expression in the fact that he styled himself the "distaffside grandfather" crime, extolls the materialistic life, money and counter-revolutionary violence. of the tens of thousands of

- Vietnamese children and arts is the noisiest school of thought which is dominaleft by the U.S. expeditionar troops in South Viet Nam and called on the American ting the present cultural and art stage in Saigon. It is trying to give concrete expressions to the reactionacontribute each a dollar to the fund for raising these unfortunate children. (in Long ry and pessimistic concepts of existentialism which do-minated the spiritual life of There is no doubt that this "literature of compassion" post-war Europe. It wants to hammer into the minds the conviction that this world has been put out to co-or nate with, and lend a hand to, the peace hoax of Johnson. It is directly paid by the U.S. and this life is irrational. rithout origin, foundation or law, that man is incapable o finding any significance, any The decadent and un-healthy literature and arts, a objective and any light in this life. Given the irrationamonstrous offspring of the lity of the world and life the existentialists argue man can act without motiva BESIDE the reactionary and anti-national literation, without reasoning, with out morality and without

The existentialist literature

Under the cover of such irresponsible and reactionary watchwords as "literature is not politics" and "literatu-re is not morality", and in the name of realism they use the dirty and perfidious me thods of existentialism to sow in the minds of the read ers, especially the young generation, a pessimistic, weary outlook on life, an immoral and depraved way of life ruled by the sinister

power of money, the overriding force of violence and the base instinct of sexua-

First, it is the mirages of endless love affairs. Poetry in this category is full of "boredom, idleness, de-

bauchery, sentimental mis-fortunes, the mire of soul,

the pangs of despair, some warnith of the lover's breath and many dreams of an inef-

And many dreams of an inelicient life", to quote a poetry critic. As for music, it totally lacks the energy, vigour and stamina of strugle but entirely consists of plaintive, maudin tunes expressive of feeble, morbid and frustrated souls. These

are the obsolescent love songs

which were once en vogue in

the enemy-controlled areas

during the resistance to the French colonialists and " mo-

dern" romantic songs which are no less insipid and tear-

are no less insipid and tear-ful, singing the petty roman-

and dancing bars. They are signed Y Van, Pham Duy,

Pham Manh Cuong, Nguyen Van Dong and have been broadcast practically round

networks of the puppet admin-istration. The drama and "modern drama" theatre is

also rehashing the same old plays about disappointed, disrupted or unfortunate ro-

mances in the same lachry-

Everyday on the second

and third pages of the daily newspapers as well as the

fourth-rate magazines which have been ironically nickna-

one can read the so-called

'long social novels' or 'long sentimental stories'

dealing with trivial love

" vanguard literature

the clock over the

The most brazen and insidious exponent of this per-verse literature in Saigon is, without doubt. Chu Tu, a dirty psywar hack writer, au-thor of a string of pornographic novels which were once bestsellers in South Viet Nam: "Yeu" (Love), "Song" (Live), "Ghen" (Jealousy), "Loan" (Revolt), "Tien" egotism, greed, fallacy, trea-chery, the so-called "criminal nature" of man which he said is the most attractive side of life. He has taken no scruple to write such monstrosities as : "Therefore, despair is our raison d'e-tre. Without despair life ceases to be life. Damn the timid men, damn virtuous women, damn all, lamn you, damn myself. Whoever has not committed a murder and has not fallen trap in this word? (in Love).

ared spate of women writers grouped in the "New Wave" all of them around thirty woman indulging in adultery on life, trying to prove that there is nothing good or bac

Another morbid trend in literature which is also metaphysical and mystical literature and philosophy is also intended to make the readers forget the grim realities of society and the revolutionary struggle and take refuge in illusionary visions of idealism.

ism has attached great importance to building and maintaining a psywar literature and arts which is as brazen as perfidious. In addition, and as a complement to this method, the U.S. neocolonialists have fostered and omoted decadent and mor oid literature and arts, an ities by means of bombs and

Indeed, these so-called liraging flame of struggle o our people in both town and country and the great name

VIFT NAM COUDIER

OUR FOREFATHERS

(Continued from page 1) faithfulness to the Hung kings. We wanted to get to the bottom of the matter. We don't

and developed in the neighbour-

hood of the confluences of the

Black River the Clear River and

the River Day with the Red Ri-

ver, remarkable by the decorative

wealth of its pottery and the

fineness of its work of polished

stone. Then bronze had appear-

ed: the moulds which have

been discovered, made of a

clavey baste or carved in stone.

are evidence of the gradual

progress and the high technique

finally attained in the art of

casting and working bronze.

Hoes, sickles, ploughshaves,

spearheads, arrowheads, fish-

hooks, knives, armour-plates-

the wide range of work-tools

and weapons in our possession

testifies to a deep love of

the beautiful, an exquisite

taste for shapes and a

passionate, joyful so to

speak, search for ornamenta-

tion. The same style, varied

vet recognizable at first sight.

is found on the urns the

vases and the famous drums,

which came close to the Iron

Age, and it was already the

our nation has earned for

itself throughout the world

have got the upper hand and

finally have swept these no

xious miasmas away. In this

respect, U.S. neo-colonialism

has sustained a bitter set-

back. The sight of waves of

young men and women in

Saigon, Da Nang, Hue and

other cities rising up in

Spring 1968 and again in this

Spring has brought this fail-

ure into bolder relief and

bespeaks an eternal spring

of our national literature,

arts and science in a reuni-

SEE IN OUR NEXT:

U.S. PUPPET POLITICAL

AGGRESSION AND TREA-

SON REACTION OF THE

fied country.

regret it. Our persistent search, carried on even under the bombs, has shed a new, more brilliant light upon the Dong Son drums known all over the world for a third of a century now. Better still, it has revealed that the admirable civilisation of which the bronze drum of the Heger I type was a kind of symbol was but the end result of a whole cultural and historical process practically covering the entire Vietnamese Bronze Age. As early as the Recently, there have appeend of the Neolithic, a stable human community had lived

them around thirty years of age, as Nguyen thi Hoang, Thuy Vu, Tuy Hong, Trung Duong. Using the same naturalist method they dig into the feelings of a woman teacher falling in love with her student, of a girl or a prostitution or the "marrying Americans" industry, and through these deals they endeavour to present a Francoise Sagantist outlook in this life, only pleasure and sensuality count

intended to pervert the minds of the young generation is the tendency to metaphysic and mysticism in literary and art works as well as it and art works as well as in theoretical treatises. Most widely known in this respect are the works by Ho Huu Tuong and Pham Cong Thien. Their writings are full of high-sounding but abstruse terms that claim to penetrate the recesses of the soul but actually surpass all compre-hension. These are reactionary idealistic philosophies confused and obscure argu mentations and skilfull veiled propaganda for religi on, supersititions, fatalism -destination and reactiona ry predictions by imaginary personages. Obviously this metaphysical and mystical

offspring of the rotten and monstrous regime which they are trying to main-tain in South Viet Nam

terary and arts movements have morally polluted South Viet Nam cities. But the

trices which enlivened the civamics of the last centuries of polished stone. At the same time it is seen that the area of extension of this culture, at this apex of its evolution included the whole Vietnamese part of the Red River valley, the whole Tongkinese delta and the entire basin of the River Ma and not merely the

vicinity of Phu Tho, Viet Tri and Hanoi. No. we are not going to proclaim hurriedly that the Hung kings were at the rendezvous ... They haven't told us yet whether they had really numbered 18. or whether, for their reign to have lasted more than 2,000 years, there had had to be 18, or another number, net of kings, but dynasties. We don't know yet, we admit, whether they would be pleased to be called as we call them - the Hung kings - for we are still in the dark as to their true names and titles.

However, that the society corresponding to the period when they had lived was a highly civilized one is beyond question. The systematic destruction of all material vestiges of our uncient national culture, ordered in the year 43 by a conqueror whose aim was a definite annexation of our country, could destroy neither the soul nor the will for resistance of our people: the reason for this is given at present by archaeology. The archaeological findings which help us reconstitute our thousands-of-years-old past are debris which had escaped not only the ravages of time but also deliberate destruction by men, and so they are but tiny vestiges. Barely taken out of oblivion, they have just started to be studied. And yet they are enough to give us a fairly clear idea of what the Van Lang of the Hung kings was and to brove our beoble to be right in keeping their affection, all through the centuries, for the Hung kings.

of our first State. On the basis of what advan ced culture, acquired at the cost of how much effort, our fathers had begun building that State, and how they had set about it our task at present, for us Vietnamese archaeologists, is to undertake such studies. Historians, philologists, linguists, folklorists, ethnologists, anthropologists and even agronomists, biologists, metallurgists, physicists, chemists ... all have pledged their help, all want to bring their contribution to this common enterbrise.

our forefather at that capita

turning-point in our history

which saw the birth of our

nation and the taking shape

### Viet Nam Alliance of National. Democratic and Peace Forces **Holds Congress**

THE Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces (South Viet Nam) held April 20 a congress to mark its first founding anniversary, Giai Phong Press Agency reported. The assembly reviewed the situation in South Viet Nam and the VNANDPF's activities and achievements in the past year, and discussed the liance's long-term tasks and role in the nation-wide struggle against US aggres-

It highlighted the brilliant successes won by the South Vietnamese people since the founding of the Alliance and warned against the obduracy of the US which still tries to turn South Viet Nam into a new-type colony and pro long its aggressive war in South Viet Nam.

After assessing the deep changes in the mind and political attitude of the upper classes including senior per-sonnel and officers of the Saigonpuppet administration and army, the Congresses stressed that the towns people of vari-ous strata had realized the aggressive and traitorous nature of the US and the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, and felt a bitterer hate for the enemy's aggressive, bellicose and fascist policy. They also were ware that the only way for them now was to take the path of revolutionary struggle to save the country and themselves. That is why

questions with which we have

been preoccupied concerning the

original features and the

strength of our national tra-

ditions, our relationships with

our neighbours in those

remote times, the creative

specificity of our social, econo-

mic and political regime in

relation to the general outline

of the Asian mode of produc-

tion, our contribution to the

elucidation of that important

Marxist theoretical concept.

Lastly, it is fascinating work

because, on the strength of

archaeological documents ana-

lysed ever more in debth, we

ser coming to life-and what

life! - the immense treasury

gends of times past; the

child of Phu Dong who grew

ub miraculous v and cleared

the native land of foreign inva-

ders: the rebellious elephant

which got its neck twisted.

the god of the waters, framing,

but eventully tamed ... However

our stories and le-

despite ruthless persecution by the enemy, they continued to step up their struggle and form a very broad anti-US front for national salvation arge sections of the uppe classes including personal ties, intellectuals, religious leaders, students, artists writers, businessmen even senior officials and officers in the Saigon administration and army hadgather ed into a genuine patrioti force struggling vigorously for the overthrow Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, and for the formation of a peace-resto-ring cabinet to talk in good faith with the NFL in order to bring peace, independence

and freedom to the country The thinking of people from all walks of life and members of political parties were in increasing agreement with the five points of the NFL and with the position of the Alliance.

The meeting defined the Alliance's tasks and direct tions of struggle as follows Any sensible political solution to the South Viet Nam issue must be based on the cessation of the U.S. aggressive war in South Viet Nam, recognition of the fundamen tal national rights of the South Vietnamese people removal of all foreign in erference, holding of general elections, formation of broad national, democratic coalition government, achiedemocracy, peace, neutrality and prosperity, and ultimate

peaceful reunification of the

"The Alliance once again declares its support for the five points of the NFL. considering them to be con sonant to the aspirations of the South Vietnamese people the American people and the peace - loving people in the world, A settlement based on them is the only thonour able' way out for the U.S.
which will save the latter the waste of its resources and the lives of American youths, and condemnation the world's peoples. "The Alliance is ready to coordi otic and democratic forces further broaden the national unity front against

The congress expressed sincere thanks to the South Viet Nam NFL, the Viet Nam Fatherland Front (DRVN), the people at home as well as overseas Vietnam ese, and all organizations, for their warm greetings on the occasion of the first anni versary of the Alliance. It voiced profound gratitude to the DRVN Government and people for their unstinted sistance to the South Vietnamese people in their fight against U.S. aggression. It also showed heartfelt gratitude to all progressives in the world and in the U.S. as well for their wholehearted support to the just struggle the South Vietnamese

folklore and historical tradi A fascinating work, don't tions are not the only ones to you think? First because it is come to life at the touch of our hope that, as has been this magic wand : archaeology the case up to now, our ar-This has been shown at two chaeological and other investicientific conferences recently gations will continue to held at a few months' interval reserve surprises for us. It is and with promising success. also fascinating work because, by the Institute of Archaeology contrariwise, we expect from in collaboration with other it answers to certain precise scientific bodies. The undertak-

our efforts could be but a fruitful one, For fervour is in u We have the deep conviction of doing useful work and, while serving science, of paying deserved tribute to our forefathers. to the nation. The interest work and the unflagging attention with which our compatriot including those in the South are following it, are for us the



A Dong Son bronze drum

### DRVN GOVERNMENT SCORES U.S. ESPIONAGE AND **PROVOCATIVE** ACTIVITIES AGAINST DPRK

(Full text of DRVN government statemen

O<sup>N</sup> April 15, 1969, a large-size reconnation size reconnaissance plane of the EC. 121 type of the U.S. imperialists flew a hostile espionage mission on the air space of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and was shot down the DPRK air force.

In spite of their setback, the U.S. ruling cirles have been keeping up their hostile activities against the DPRK. U.S. President Nixon has arrogantly declared that the U.S. would continue reconssance flights over th DPRK with armed escort by the "Special Strike Force 71"

As known to all, since the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement, the U.S. imperialists have been occupying South Korea, stepping up their preparations for a war of aggression, and mounting repeated military provocaagainst the DPRK.

Sorties of the U.S. imperia lists' intelligence planes in the airspace of the DPRK, the setting up of the "Special

Strike Force 71" and continued reconnaissance flights over the DPRK constitute brazen violations of interna tional law and of the 1953 Korean Armistice Agreement. gross encroachments upon the sovereignty and security of the DPRK, and a grave threat to peace in Asia and the world. This brazen and adventurist step of the U.S. imperialists is nothing short of an insolent challenge to the peoples in the socialist countries and the peace- and justice-loving people all over the

The Vietnamese people and the Government of the DRVN fully support the legitimate position of the Government of the DPRK expounded in its statement of April 23, 1060, which firmly insisted the U.S. government stop at once all its military provocations against th DPRK and withdraw all foreign troops from South

If the obdurate U.S. impe rialists recklessly continue to encroach upon the DPRK, the heroic army and people of Korea will exercise sacred right to self-defence and deal them more deserved punishing blows. The U.S. mperialists must bear full esponsibility for the conse

quences of their acts. As intimate brothers and companions-in-arms fighting against the common enemy the U.S. imperialist aggressors - the Vietnamese people will, under any circumstances. staunchly support the fra ternal Korean people in their effort to foil all schemes and war provocations of the U.S. imperialists, to defend the independence and sovereignty of the DPRK and achieve national peaceful reunification, thus contributing to the safeguarding of peace in Asia Glorious victory will cer-

Okinawa Day (April 28)

# Okinawa Should Be Immediately Returned to the Japanese People

HE continued occupation of Okinawa by the U.S. is intolerable since it constitutes a crime against the island's one million inhabitants and the entire Japanese people as well as the Vietnamese people and the other Asian peoples. In execution of their policy to make Iapan a prime jumping-off place for war provocations and aggressions in Asia, and under the terms of the " Japan-U.S. Security Treaty", the U.S. imperialists have set up in Okinawa 117 military bases - nearly one half of the total of U.S. military bases in Japan. Okinawa has become the biggest nuclear missile base in the Far East and an operational and logistical base for the U.S. aggressive war in Viet Nam, With the Sato government's abetment, B52

planes have been flown

from Okinawa for raids in North and South Viet Nam.

Over the past 24 years the Japanese people have been persistently struggling for the abolition of the " Japan-U.S. Security Treadismantlement of American military bases in Japan and withdrawal of U.S. occupationist transoccupationist troops from Japan.

Under pressure from this popular movement of the apanese people, the United "talk with the Japanese government on the return of Okinawa to Japan" farce and had to hold elections Okinawa administrative organisms. Chobyo Vara ndidate with democratic forces' backing, was returned ecutive chief of the Kyu Kyn administration This was an initial success of the Okinawans in particular and of the Japanese people in

However the U.S. and the Japanese reactionary clique always plotting to make Okinawa a permanent Amer-ican military base and preparing to repress the Japanese people's struggle even more brutally. The Japanese reactionary authorities' sche me is to extend the validity of the " Japan-U.S. Security Treaty" and to amend the constitution so as to egalize the re-armament of Japan and restore militarism

But the Japanese people are marching resolutely for-ward to achieve an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral Japan The Vietnamese people

people's fight against U.S.

aggression, for national sal-

vation. On the occasion of

Okinawa Day, we extend to

the lapanese people our

heartiest greetings of mi-

litant solidarity and best

wishes for success.

resolutely demand that the U.S. imperialists return Okinawa immediately and unconditionally to Japan They strongly condemn the Sato government's collusion with the U.S. imperialists, its disserving the interests of the Japanese people and helping the U.S. aggressive var against Viet Nam. The valiant struggle of the Ja-panese people is a valuable support to the Vietnamese

Follow-up reports on the

issue) put enemy losses at 500 men instead of 400), plus 20 armoured cars destroyed and 2 helicopters and one reconnaissance plane shot

Nhuong rivermouth, Ha Tinh

province, perpetrating many

crimes against the local

These new crimes of the

U.S. aggressors against North

Viet Nam also constituted

impudent provocations a-

gainst world and U.S. public

They have been strongly

protested by the spokesman

the DRVN

opinion.

T Cho Bung, 54 km southwest of Saigon, the PLAF on April 10 overcompound, destroying 20 military vehicles and wiping out the guard platoon.

In Ben Tre province, on April 14, 4 of the 8 vessels of a flotilla were sent to the bottom or set on fire about 60 km south-southwest of Saigon and 170 adverse casualties were recorded in this action. On April 18, a company of puppet Division was wiped out at My Chanh, more than So km south of Saigon, losing about too men.

In Vinh Long province, about 100 km southwest of Saigon, between April 11 and 14. the PLAF mounted 56 attacks against 22 enemy positions in the 2 cities of Vinh Long and Sa Dec, 4 sub-sector H.O's and many military posts. They took a toll of 1,150 including a U.S. major and 5 puppet majors and captains, shot ablaze 10 M.113 armoured personnel carriers, brought down to aircraft, and destroyed 8 military vehicles and a can-

WO years ago, said the battalion commander, in the midst of an operation or more exactly, summer 1967, my unit passed by Duong Minh Chau area The lad cried even tonder these words. He pressed about 70 km North-West of on his belly a bag that appar-Saigon - Ed.). We reached ently contained all his bethe border of the forest by onging went on crying quite noon. The sun beat down furiously and the trees had

WO years ago, said the

ire by a U.S. toxic che

leafless branches. Amidst the

could see several buds shoot-

ing forth. More than that,

ve met someone whose situa-

tion irresistibly called

a long while before sobbing been completely stripped cal spraying. There remained only shrivelled trunks and lage! I live in a strategic

think we can take you along

hamlet. And he was about to burst into tears again. It took me lot of trouble to get his story. And here what I gathered from his broken talk.

mind an analogy with the renascent vegetation. His name was Trong and he had only his mother left. I was bringing up the rear of the battalion when the fora poor blind woman. The two ived in a strategic hamlet. ward column suddenly came Earlier there had been five to a halt. I ran up to the of them : his father, mother ront ranks. What a surprise two elder sisters and himself. for me to-hear someone weep They earned their living as I approached the head of gathering latex in a planta the column. Seeing me. Comtion. By the end of 1965, a rade Dang said, pointing his

After a brief consultation with other comrades in the command I' decided to take the youngster. And we had not to regret

tailed him to a scout group Many comrades at first die not fully trust him but I personally had strong faith in him because the path he had taken was unassailable. It was the one that had led st of our men to the battlefield.

Never had I seen a scout with such a stamina as Trong who stood so well all trials all through the two years he served in the group. He who had defied hunger and other hardships staying two days in the forest waiting for us. now could remain hidden in a pond for a whole week to watch the movement of the enemy. During the Ba Chiem battle, he sat perched whole day in a tall old tree, braving

## Military Operations

U.S. PLANES RAID NORTH

VIETNAMESE SCHOOL

(Continued from page 8)

ON April 23, 1969, U.S.

Thanh district. Nghe An

province. It was during class-

time, and one of the school-

children was killed, and 18

Between April 14 and 19,

U.S. aircraft also attacked

many places in Minh Hoa

and Le Thuy districts. Quang

Binh province, and the Cua

others wounded.

primary school of

Khanh Thanh village in Yen people.

of Area (cast of Pleiku) and Buon Me Thuot were shelled, resulting in the destruction of 18 engines. Three days earlier, on April 3, a puppet company was wiped out at Buon Thung (10 km north of Buon Me Thuot). losing 80 men including all the commanding officers.

SAIGON SECTOR

major annihilation raid was mounted by the PLAF on the night of April 25 against the encampment of a battalion of the U.S. 25th Inf. Div. at Ben Trai, 76 km westnorthwest of Saigon. Tay Ninh province. The patriots put 300 GIs out of action, destroyed tank, 7 heavy mortars, 16 blockhouses and 12 tent barracks and brought down I beliconter.

On April 18, in the same provinces, intercepting the enemy on a mission to relieve Vo Tung post, 80 km northnorthwest of Saigon, the PLAF wiped out 120 GIs, blasted to pieces 12 tanks and armoured cars and grounded 12 helicopters and

Puppet rangers on April 26 were engaged at Giong Lon, 15km west of Saigon, and one of their companies was decimated, losing 70 men.

In Saigon itself, on April 2. the guerillas sank an enemy patrol boat berthed at a quay in the 7th dis-

major ambush on April 16 at Song Luy on Highway Nº 1, 170 km east-northeast of Saigon (see our previous

# A Teen-Age Volunteer

MEKONG

finger ahead: "A kid wants to come

with him. "

In the Southernmost province of Ca Mau, between April 4 and April 20, the PLAF killed or wounded 560 enemy men including 140 GIs, captured 110 agents of the enemy, sank or burnt II vessels, destroyed an armoured car and downed one plane.

with us, Vinh! But he is too young. And there must be his parents' permission and the village's certificate. He clung to the legs of our men and cried his heart out when we prepared to resume our march. Now the whole bat-talion is held up because of this urchin. I have been looking for you to ask what to

So that's that. I walked The boy was there. up. The boy was the About 15 years of age. He rolled on the ground and clung to a liberation fighter, sobbing bitterly. His short ants bated a long pair of sun-tanned legs. wore no hat in spite of a blazing sun. His hair was sparse, mpt, and was turning sandy. I was at once struck by the resolute expression on his face. I took his hands, helped him up and told him in my sweetest voice: "Come, come ... Tell me the whole business and we'll see

entreaty in his eyes as he looked up at me that if I had given order to resume the without the boy, would have regretted it all

if we can do something

I seated him beside me and went on:

"If you want to join us, why did it occur to you towait for us here? Won't it be simpler go to the village committee? Why do you

strategic hamlet was set up in their area. A U.S. shell landing on their house killed his father and his two sisters. His mother lost her sight as result of a shrapnel wound. Since then mother and son had been in the direst desti-

His mother, he said, had promised to let him go as oon as he was old enough. But where to go she did not specify. At night, thinking that her son was asleep she would feel his body with every now and then to assess his exact size. But Trong was awake. He knew his mother was boiling with impatience to see her son off into

Then, one day she urged him to go and join the revolutionnary armed forces. Trong had many times waylaid in this corner of the forest. Each time he returned empty handed, his mother would tell him to persevere This time, he had spent the night in the open air in the forest waiting for us. His mother has told him:

"You must go into the army to avenge our family and our people. If you come back all the time, you can

So, he stayed two days and two nights running in the jungle. His provision of cassava roots and water having run out, he had gone withou food for a whole days before

direction of the movement of a U.S. unit. He came back. drenched to the bones, shivering like a duck in a thunderstorm, but provided with the most complete information.

He nurtured an implacable natred for the Yankees. It seemed that the U.S. shell. in knocking out the eyes of mother, had given Trong a clearer sight that enabled him to detect the slightest novement of the enemy.

Since the beginning of this year Trong no longer used only his eyes to fight the Yanks. He wished to use also his hands. At his request we transferred him to a group of 40mm bazookas. Ever since then he alone has blown up a dozen tanks, and M.113 armoured personnel carriers. Ouite recently, thurdistrict of Saigon, a machingun nest of the enemy instaled in a house in Dong Khanh bouleyard blocked our advance. But Trong, by an extraordinary courageous deed in the most perilous fired a Buo shot with a rare accuracy that sent crumbling the floor on which the ma chinegun was placed. Thanks o his timely action, we were

able to resume our offensive. That is how the hatred for the Yanks has turned a little boy into an elite fighter.

After ANH DUC (South Vic-

# News from LAOS

#### 1,100th U.S. Airdowned Laos

THE patriotic armed forces on April 18 knock-ed down a T.28 plane over Samphat area, north of Vapi town (Lower Laos), bringing to 1,100 the total of U.S. aircraft lost in Laos so far, KPL reported.

#### 157 Rightist Sol-Leave Their in Luana Prabana

BETWEEN Feb. 15 and March 31, a total of 120 bandits, including one platon and six squad com-manders stationed in the northern part of the Nam

6

Bac valley, were called into deserting the rightist ranks, KPL (Pathet Lao News Agency) reported.

Enemy defections in the area have become more frequent since the release by frequent since the release by the patriots of the POWs captured in the Nam Bac battle (Jan. 1968) which has favourably impressed the rightist soldiers and their

#### Over 300 Bandits Wiped Out in Phonasaly

 HE regional armed forces in Phongsaly province, Upper Laos, in the first quarter of this year put out of action over 300 U.S.-fos-tered bandits smuggled into newly liberated areas with aim of rebuilding their

patriotic forces. The patriots seized more kinds including dozens of mortars, recoilless guns and machineguns, seven radio transmitters and large quanother

tainly belong to the heroic

Korean people.

#### Public Health Liberated Zone

LTHOUGH the U.S. imperialists and their hire-lings have been stepping up their "special war" against Laos and increasing their aerial bombardments the public health service in liberated zone has kept developing, said a KPL

By now all the provinces in the liberated zone have their hospitals. A network of installations has been set up with infirmaries in almost all districts and dispensaries in almost all

Propagation of hygienic practices and prophylactics has been stepped up in almost all villages along with the popularization of health-preserving methods.

The training of medical workers has been pushed up. Apart from locally-run schools to train hospital attendants, the liberated zone has opened 4 schools to

Production of medicaments, particularly from local ma-terials, has been expanded.

The contingent of medical workers from elementary to high levels—mostly sons and daughters of working peoplehas recorded recorded outstanding

Surgery-a novelty to Laotians not long ago-has now become an integral part of treatment in many hospitals where skull and other oper ations have been successfully

The medical service in the liberated zone has met the requirements in promptly treating wounds caused by U.S. bombs and shells, making ever greater contribu-tions to the struggle against U.S. aggression, for national

### ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT



A major ammunition depot of the U.S. marines southwest of Da Nang air lase blew up during a PLAF atlack on April 27, 1969. Flames could be seen from a 80 kilometre distance.

## MILITARY OPERATIONS

QUANG TRI — THUA-THIEN AREA

N April 22 the PLAF put nearly 100 GIs northway for di action, 18 km northway No.0 between Dong Ha and Khe Sanh GPA reported. On April 23 and 24, they engaged the enemy in heavy fighting near Ca Dinh leavy fighting near Ca Dinh shooting down a helicopter. In this sector, guerrillas and regional troops of Gam Duther of the company of the control of the company of t

In the Khe Sanh sector, where the enemy had launched a large-scale counter-offensive, the PLAF blotted offensive, the PLAF blotted that a U.S. armoured camp at Lang Vay, 7 km west of Khe Sanh town. After one hour's fighting, nearly 100 GHz casualties were listed and 23 tanks and armoured cars destroyed.

Cars destroyed.

On April 28, before dawn,
3 more enemy camps around
Ta Con, the famous former
"Khe Sanh base", were
lattened. Well nigh zoo U.S.juppets were put out of action and 33 vehicles wrecked
during these raids.

All told, in the Quang Tri area, South of the DMZ, between April 20 and April 28, the enemy lost nearly 950 men and 67 military vehicles.

vehicles.

In southern Quang Tri, a major operation launched by the Americans in mid-March cost them serious losses. On April 17, the railers of them serious Tranh and A Doi, principal theates of operation about 13 km south of Khe Sanh town. In a month, they lost 1,200 men, 12 armoured cars, 8 cemons and 2 annun and feel depots

destroyed and 4 helicopters

Further southeast, in the Hue sector, nearly 400 enemy troops including 280 GIs were put out of action in different PLAF actions between April 18 and April 26,

DA NANG AREA

THE most spectacular coup was the levelling by PLAF ground troops of a the souther ground troops of the souther souther the souther souther the souther souther the souther than the souther south

Ten days earlier, the PLAF had pounded several U.S. billeting areas in Da Nang city and some 60 adverse troops had been killed or wounded at 2 major fuel and chemicals depots turned into a gigantic mass of fire by the shells of the patriots.

On April 17, guerillas of 4 villages of Dien Ban district, about 20km south of Da Nang, knocked out 115 GIs and burnt an M.118 armour-

ed car.

Four enemy positions near
Nong Sen, 45 km south-south
west of Da Nang, were
seed and a company and
several platons of puppet
troops wiped out, losing 150
men killed or wounded, may
others taken prisoner and
a large quantity of weapons
to the patriots.

On Clouds pass (Hai Van), northwest of Da Nang, a military 13-vehicle convoy moving in the direction of Hue was completely destroyed along with its escort comprising 41 GIs.

Further south in Quang Ngal province, the enemy, violently intercepted west and southwest of the provincial capital, took some 100

casualties on April 17.

In High Dinh province on the road from Qui Nhon to An Khe, in a new ambush on April 18, a U.S. convoy of 5 trucks loaded with military goods and escorted by 2 M-41 tanks and 2 self-propelling cannons was completely destroyed, and all the Gls accompanying it were killed or wounded.

#### WESTERN HIGHLANDS

N Kon tum province, U.S. reconnaissance units were assaulted throughout April 24 at Hill 816, labout 40 km northwest of the provincial capital, and lost 72 men killed or- wounded.

Between Kontum and Pleitak, on April 16, a U.S. conway ran into an ambush 24, km north of the last city. Fourteen vehicles including to tanks and armoured cars were destroyed, and 70 GBs and 10 GBs and 10 GBs later, the CP of a pupper langer battalion 5 km north of Pleiku came, under fire and 70 enemy soldiers were killed or wounded.

It was further reported that on April 6, the airfields

(Continued page 7)

SOUTH VIET NAM

# WORKERS SWING INTO ACTION IN ENEMY-CONTROLLED AREAS

CANTY wages, spiralling inflation and soaring prices are not the only being the control of the c

partiess and trade unions' May Day meetings and demonstrations. The proof of the pr

In addition, workers of hundreds of factories, big and small, have also militated for better pay, reduction of work hours and improvement work hours and improvement also and the state of the state of

Recently, on April 24, 5,000 Saigon dockers went on strike in protest against the arbitrary reduction of the amount of work by the American port authorities without prior notice as this move affected the workers' income.

Workers in South Vietnames cities have been militating not only for economic and trade union interests. They have also taken an active part in the fight against US agreed the secondary of the s

### Intellectuals in Occupied Cities Lash U.S.-Puppet Policies

A teach-in was held on April 19 and 20 at the college of Can Tho, a city under U.S.-puppet control, GPA reported.

The more than 300 participants, including intellectuals of the city, from Saigon and other places, among them senators and high-ranking officials of the pupper administration, denounced the Thieu-Ky fascist pupper tregime's downright retression

of peace advocates

GPA quoted Nguyen Van Hao, Dector of Economy, as saying that the economy in areas under U.S.-pupper control was an "imported econony of false prosperity". And "illiteracy has the hold on one-third of the population in the big cities, and on a half of the population in the (U.S.-pupper controlled) areas in general". "Social evils are proliferating fast", he added.

GPA said the teach-in "attributed the misery of the people to the people to the people of the people